From: Shelley Anderson
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/31/01 5:52pm
Subject: Microsoft Case

I am not a computer whiz and I could only parrot statements and articles others have written about the Microsoft case. The best that I can do is tell you how scared I am about the things I read about what Microsoft could do if not held back - the control over ME they could eventually have - and all the other little guys in the USA. My understanding is that they are hoping to crush the Internet freedoms provided by other browsers and have total control.

No one or no company should have total or nearly total control over anything in our country. Isn't that what outlawing monopolies is all about? What has happened in our country that we no longer protect and encourage the little guy? Why does Microsoft need so much control and/or so much money?

"Settling" the problem with "free" computers to schools sounds noble, but to me it's just another way to capture another segment of the computer world. It's interesting that Microsoft's recent attempts at operating systems (the ones with "Window" in their name) are also attempts to be as much like another operating system as they can possibly be.

Why would we want to reward a system that has "allowed" the hacking, worms and viruses that have crippled the whole world of computing at times? I've even read that they leave loopholes on purpose so they can heroically "fix" them later.

Please, please consider very carefully what the outcome will be in this case. Microsoft has, after all, been found guilty of violating monopoly laws. Shouldn't the penalties be in line with those of other monopoly abusers?

Shelley Anderson